

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKARTA 11323 150556Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 /067 W

----- 102927

R 150520Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0266
INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT ID

SUBJECT: GENERAL SUMITRO RESURFACES

1. MAJOR JAKARTA DAILIES EVENING SEPT. 12 AND MORNING
SEPT. 13 FRONT-PAGED STATEMENT BY FORMER DEPUTY ARMED
FORCES COMMANDER IN CHEIF SUMITRO ISSUED BY DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT (HANKAM) AS PART OF PREPARATIONS FOR 30 TH
ANNIVERSARY INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES ON OCT. 5. SUMITRO
MESSAGE ONE OF SEVERAL STATEMENTS BY FORMER MILITARY
LEADERS PUBLISHED BY HANKAM INFORMATION CENTER, BUT
SUMITRO STATEMENT WAS ONLY ONE TO GET SUBSTANTIAL PRESS
PLAY, PROBABLY BECAUSE THIS IS FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SUMTIRO
COMMENTARY TO BE MADE PUBLIC SINCE HIS FORCED RESIGNATION
IN WAKE OF JANUARY 1974 RIOTS.

2. AS REPORTED BY PRESS, SUBSTANCE OF SUMITRO MESSAGE
IS LARGEY UNEXCEPTIONABLE COMMENTARY ON PROBLEMS OF
TRANSTION FROM 1945 GENERATION TO SUCCESSOR GENERATION
IN INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES LEADERSHIP, INCLUDING FATHERLY
SUGGESTION TO YOUNG OFFICERS THAT THEY MAINTAIN "DAY BOOK"
AS MEANS OF SELF-APPRAISAL AND IMPROVEMENT. HOWEVER,
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SUMITRO ALSO TOOK OBVIOUS SWIPE AT HIS ERSTWHILE RIVAL

GEN. ALI MURTOPO IN STATEMENT THAT USE OF "INTRIGUE AND MANIPULATION" IS SHAMEFUL CHARACTERISTIC THAT IS NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIAN CULTURE AND MUST NOT BE PASSED ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION. SUMITRO ALSO CAUTIONED OLDER GENERATION WITHIN MILITARY TO FACE FACT THAT THEY ARE INCREASINGLY "TIRED AND DECREPIT" AND SHOULD WILLINGLY PASS ON RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUNGER GENERATION, WHICH "CLEARLY WILL BE BETTER" THAN CURRENT LEADERS.

3. SUMITRO STATEMENT COMBINES "ELDER STATEMAN" COMMENTARY WITH TOUCH OF BITTERNESS (VIS-A-VIS MURTOPO) AND SOUR GRAPES (VIS-VIS SENIOR MILITARY LEADERS STILL IN ACTIVE SERVICE). OVER-ALL TONE IS NOT THAT IF MAN PLANNING ACTIVE COMEBACK. NEVERTHELESS, PROMINENT PRESS COVERAGE GIVEN TO STATEMENT REFLECTS CONTINUING PRESTIGE OF SUMITRO.

NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JAKART11323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750318-0925
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750950/aaaabruj.tel
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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06 JUL 2006

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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL SUMITRO RESURFACES
TAGS: PINT, ID, (SUMITRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006